

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a release storage area for storing files and directories related to a current release of a released software product;

a ~~build second storage~~ area for storing files and directories associated with

5 modifications of the current release;

a software release information manager coupled to the release storage area and coupled to the ~~build second storage~~ area and adapted to identify differences between files and directories in the release storage area and files and directories in the ~~build second storage~~ area;

10 a scan element operable to determine information regarding files and directories stored in the build area;

an inventory file element for ~~gathering receiving~~ and storing information in said ~~build second storage~~ area; and

15 said software release information manager is operable to control the operation of said inventory file element and said scan element to effect the transfer of said information from said ~~build second storage~~ area to said release storage area.

2. (Delete)

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 [[2]] wherein the software release information manager further comprises:

a release database coupled to the scan element and said inventory file element for storing the information regarding files and directories located in the build second 5 storage area.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the software release information manager further comprises:

a verify element coupled to said inventory file element to compare information associated with representing files and directories in the release storage area with 5 information associated with the representing files and directories in the build second storage area to identify differences between the compared information.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the software release information manager further comprises:

an install element coupled to said inventory file element to copy files and directories from the build second storage area to the release storage area.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the build second storage area is adapted to be used by a developer to modify or create files and/or directories for the software product.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the identified differences may include one or more of: file existence, file naming, file ownership information, file access control information, file contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership information, and directory access control information.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for software release management of a software product, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a build ~~storage~~ area ~~having adapted to have~~ development files in a hierarchically structured development directory;

5 ~~receiving gathering~~ build information regarding development files and directories ~~adapted to be stored~~ in the build ~~storage~~ area;

identifying a release storage area having release files in a hierarchically structured release directory;

10 ~~receiving gathering release~~ information regarding the release files and directories in the release storage area; [[and]]

storing said ~~received gathered~~ build information and said ~~received gathered~~ release information in an inventory file element; and

reporting to a user regarding differences between the release information and the build information wherein the differences include one or more of: file existence, file

15 naming, file ownership information, file access control information, file contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership information, and directory access control information.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

storing the ~~received gathered~~ build information in a first database; and

storing the ~~received gathered~~ release information in a second database,

wherein the step of reporting further comprises accessing the first and second

5 databases database to compare the build information stored therein and the release information stored therein to identify differences therebetween.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

installing a copy of the release files and directories in a destination ~~storage area~~ to install a current release of the software product.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising copying build files from the build area via said inventory file element to the release area to generate a new release.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising: installing a copy of the release files and directories in a destination area to install the new release of the software product.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for software release management comprising the steps of:

identifying a build area having development files in a hierarchically structured development directory;

5 scanning said [[a]] build ~~storage~~ area containing that ~~contains~~ modified files and directories for a software product;

generating an inventory file from build information derived from the step of scanning and regarding [[the]] modified files and directories in the build ~~storage~~ area;

10 storing said scanned information in said build area into an ~~in~~ and inventory file element;

verifying comparing the build information in the inventory file element with release information regarding a current release of files and directories in a release storage area; [[and]]

15 installing modified files and directories [[in]] into the release storage area to create a new release of files and directories in the release storage area defining a release database; [[.]]

updating information in the release database from the build information in the inventory file in response to the step of installing modified files and directories; and

reporting information to a user regarding differences between the release

20 information and the build information wherein the differences include one or more of: file existence, file naming, file ownership information, file access control information, file contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership information, and directory access control information.

14. (Deleted)

15. (Deleted)

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the step of verifying comprises:
identifying the differences between the build storage area and the release
storage area; and
presenting the identified differences to a user to permit correction of any
5 identified anomalies by the user.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the differences may include one or
more of: file existence, file naming, file ownership information, file access control
information, file contents, directory existence, directory naming, directory ownership
information, and directory access control information.